

Message Text

SECRET

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67

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 EUR-12 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 NSC-05 DODE-00 (ISO) W

----- 062296

R 051330Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1907

S E C R E T TUNIS 1593

DEPT PLS PASS USCINCSOUTH, NAPLES

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR TS

SUBJECT: ALLEGED PLANS FOR NATO SHIP VISIT TO TUNIS

1. EMBASSY HAS HEARD REPORT THAT NATO NAVAL UNIT IS SUPPOSED TO VISIT TUNIS APRIL 24 - 27 ON WAY FROM ISTANBUL TO TOULON. UNIT IS SAID TO CONSIST OF FOUR SHIPS: BRITISH, ITALIAN, TURKISH AND USS PATTERSON. IT IS FURTHER ALLEGED THAT TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY APPROVED VISIT.

2. WE ASSUME THAT THERE IS NO FOUNDATION TO REPORT OF VISIT SINCE NO CLEARANCE HAS BEEN SOUGHT FROM THIS EMBASSY. ALSO, BRITISH AND ITALIAN EMBASSIES HERE UNAWARE OF ANY VISIT AND EXPRESSED DISBELIEF THAT TUNISIANS WOULD AGREE TO NATO VISIT OR THAT SUCH A VISIT WOULD HAVE BEEN REQUESTED WITHOUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE.

3. WE AGREE THAT IT MOST UNLIKELY THAT TUNISIANS WOULD AGREE TO NATO VISIT, AND OBVIOUSLY NO APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE WITHOUT FULLEST CONSULTATION BEFORE-HAND AMONG PARTIES CONCERNED.

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4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT ASCERTAIN WHETHER THERE IS

ANY POSSIBLE SUBSTANCE TO THIS STORY.

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NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, NAVAL SHIPS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TUNIS01593
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760089-0616
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760388/aaaaczro.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <28 JUL 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED PLANS FOR NATO SHIP VISIT TO TUNIS
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, TS, UK, IT, TU, US, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006